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RIN BY HAROLD SAKUISHI

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WHEN IT IS AVAILABLE IN YOUR COUNTRY OR REGION

TRANSLATOR: DOWOLF
EDITOR: CRAYOLA

BUST OUT THEM TISSUES...

BUT KEEP YOUR HAND OUTTA YOUR PANTS

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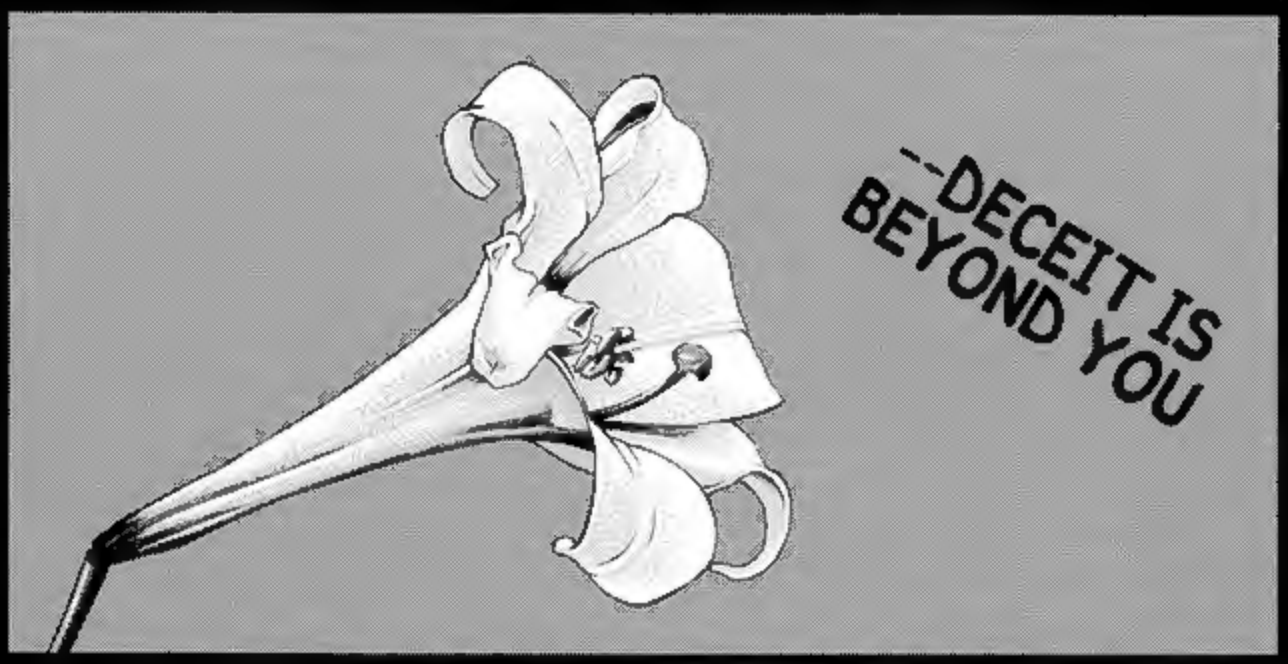
comics"RiN"vol.12 now on sale.

RiN リン

Harold Sakuishi



HMM...
I'VE GOT A SINGLE TEXT FROM CHOU-NO-SAN.
IT CAME LAST NIGHT.
HOTEL KUMAGUSU GARDENS

MAYBE IT'S TO TELL US WHO GOT THE COVER?

I'M GOING BACK TO THE ROOM TO GIVE CHOU-NO-SAN A CALL.
GLUG
LOVE
HUH? IS HE GOING TO BE UP THIS EARLY?
IT'S 7.
NO WORRIES. HE DOESN'T GO TO BED UNTIL AFTER HE'S SEEN THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS RESULTS.
Later.

.....DID TAKI-KUN GET THE COVER?!

HEY, TELL ME MORE ABOUT THE DREAM.

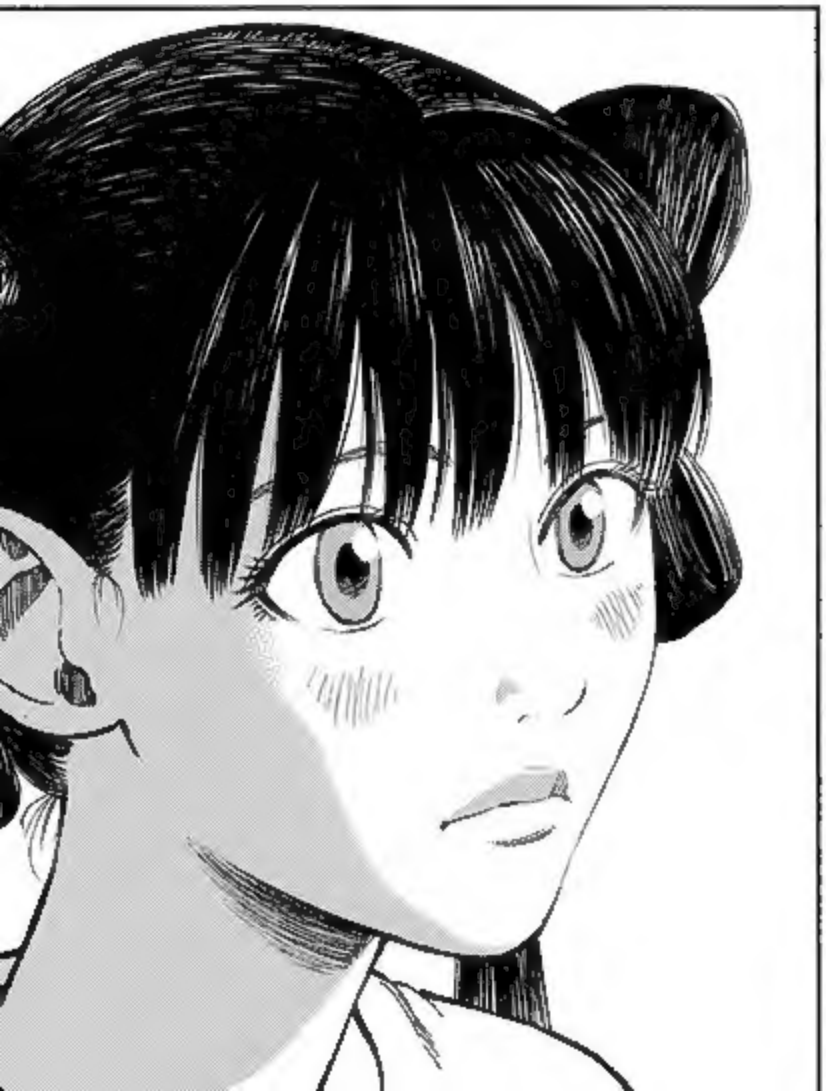
YOU'RE INTERESTED IN IT?
HUH?
NOD

YOU SEE, YURI-SAMA...

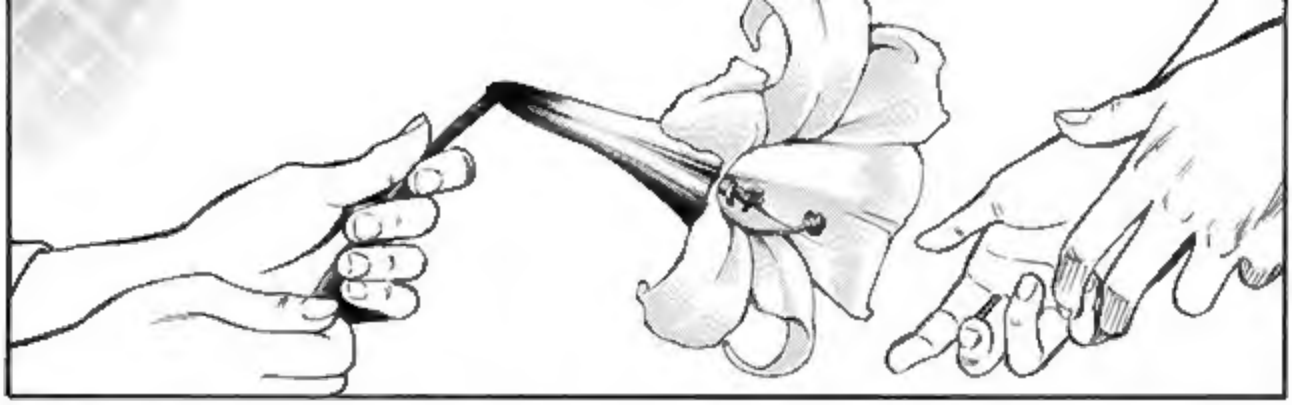
SHE'S SO REVERED BY THE FIVE PRINCES, THE FEW ELITES PERMITTED ENTRY INTO THE MAIN SHRINE,
THAT THEY BOW THEIR HEADS SO LOW THEY TOUCH THE FLOOR.
BUT TO KIOU...
POP!
HE SNUCK IN AGAIN?
YEAH. THE SECOND TIME WAS ON THE DAY OF THE FESTIVAL, WHEN SECURITY WAS LAX.

UH, UMM... HERE.
THIS IS IN THANKS FOR SAVING MY LIFE.
GULP

HOPED TO...
TO SEE YOU FROM UP CLOSE.



I HAD HOPED TO...



TH-
THANK YOU.

THEN I'LL READ IT WHILE I'M HOLDING DOWN THE FORT.
HUH? YOU SURE?
OH, WANT TO SEE THE STO-RYBOARD?

HE BRAVED THE DAN-GERS...
AFTERWARDS, AGAIN AND AGAIN,

DAY 2

KUMANO NACHI SHRINE

(BIG KUMOTORI PASS) ↓ (SMALL KUMOTORI PASS)

KUMANO HONGU SHRINE

WALKING THE KUMANO KODOU

熊野道

SIGN: KUMANO ROAD

THAT'S A PRETTY ROUGH ITINERARY.

WHAT'D CHOU-NO-SAN SAY?

OH, HE DIDN'T PICK UP.

熊野道

SLEEPING LIKE A LOG, I ASSUME.

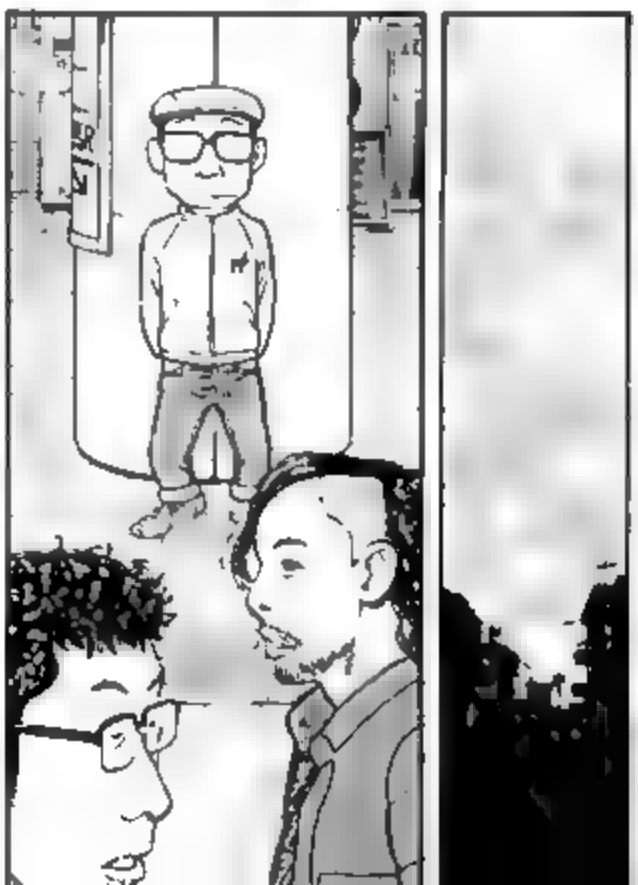
WELL, I'M SURE HE'LL GIVE ME A BUZZ ONCE HE'S UP.

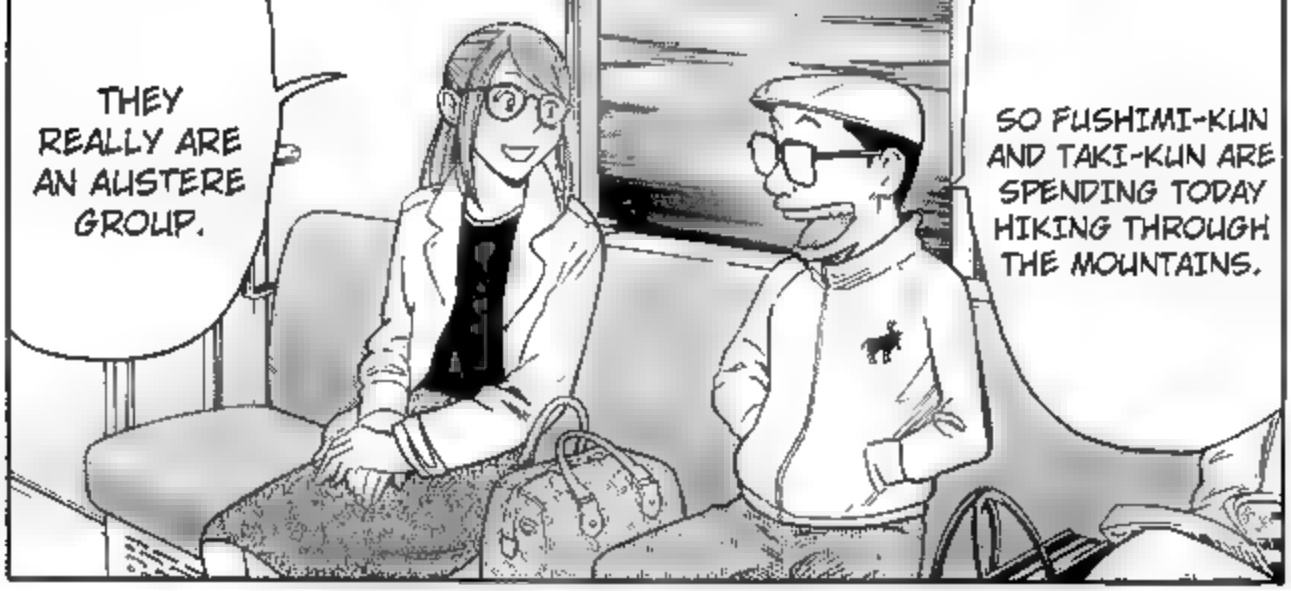
.....

IT'LL PROBABLY BE WHEN WE'RE EATING LUNCH, OR SOMETHING.

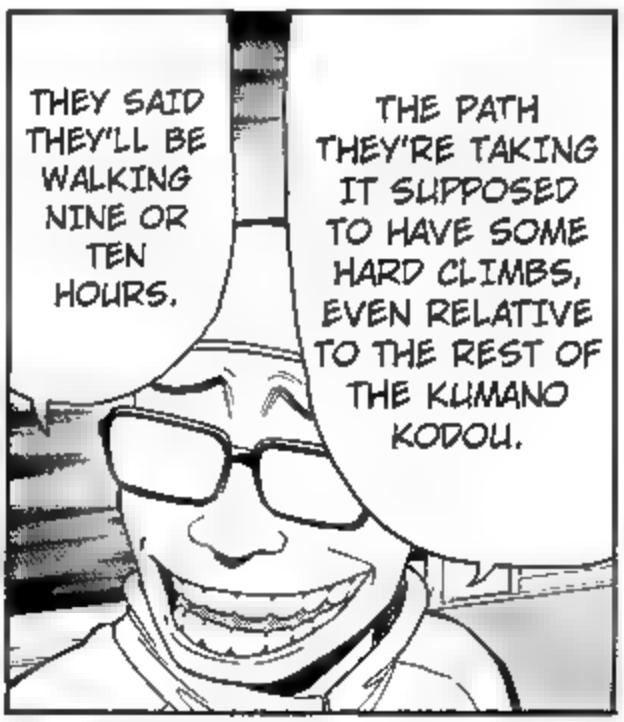
GOOD MOR-NING!
タッ
タッ

SFX: RUSH!




THEY REALLY ARE AN AUSTERE GROUP.
SO FUSHIMI-KUN AND TAKI-KUN ARE SPENDING TODAY HIKING THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS.

WHOA.. I COULD NEVER DO THAT.


THEY SAID THEY'LL BE WALKING NINE OR TEN HOURS.
THE PATH THEY'RE TAKING IT SUPPOSED TO HAVE SOME HARD CLIMBS, EVEN RELATIVE TO THE REST OF THE KUMANO KODOU.

RIN-CHAN SAID SHE'S GOING TO BE TAKING IT EASY IN THE HOTEL HOT SPRING.
RIGHT?

R
11:09
Remember: "Not one step back." ♪
Don't forget
HM...
IT'S RIN-CHAN.

WE'RE JUST GOING TO SEE A MOVIE; WHAT'S WITH THE MESSAGE?
OH, NO-THING...
WHAT IS IT?
SLAP SLAP
LAUGHTER
Shh Shh

YURI-SAMA,
BY ITS OWN BODY DOES WOOD GIVE LIGHT TO THE FLAMES.
I WILL USE MY OWN SOUL
TO GIVE YOU LIGHT.

AND I...
WILL USE MY SOUL TO LIGHT YOU, KIOU.

THE NEW YEAR'S RITUAL IS, TO ME,
THE MOST TRYING OF ALL.

I GO TO THE RIVERS, THE BOULDERS, THE WATERFALLS, THE TREES...
ON THE FINAL DAY OF THE YEAR, STARTING FROM BEFORE THE SUN SETS, I REMOVE MYSELF FROM MY BODY.
TO ALL THE GODS, AND CONVERSE WITH THEM.

IT IS DIFFICULT TO DEMAND UNDERSTANDING FROM ONE WHO DOES NOT UNDERSTAND.

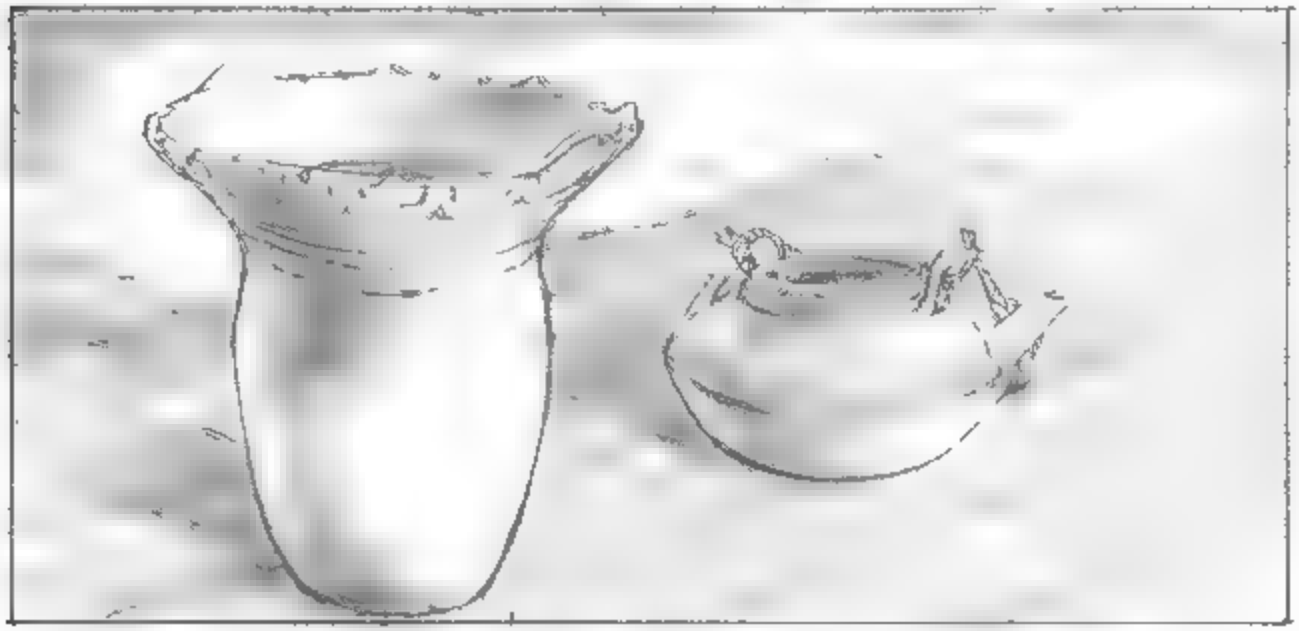
I ALSO PRAY THAT THE NEW YEAR BE A GOOD ONE.
WELL, ROUGHLY SPEAKING,
IS IT TO KNOW WHAT SORT OF YEAR THE NEW YEAR WILL BE?

ONLY THEN, WITH MY BODY AND HEART EXHAUSTED, DO I FINALLY PARTAKE OF THE PORRIDGE.

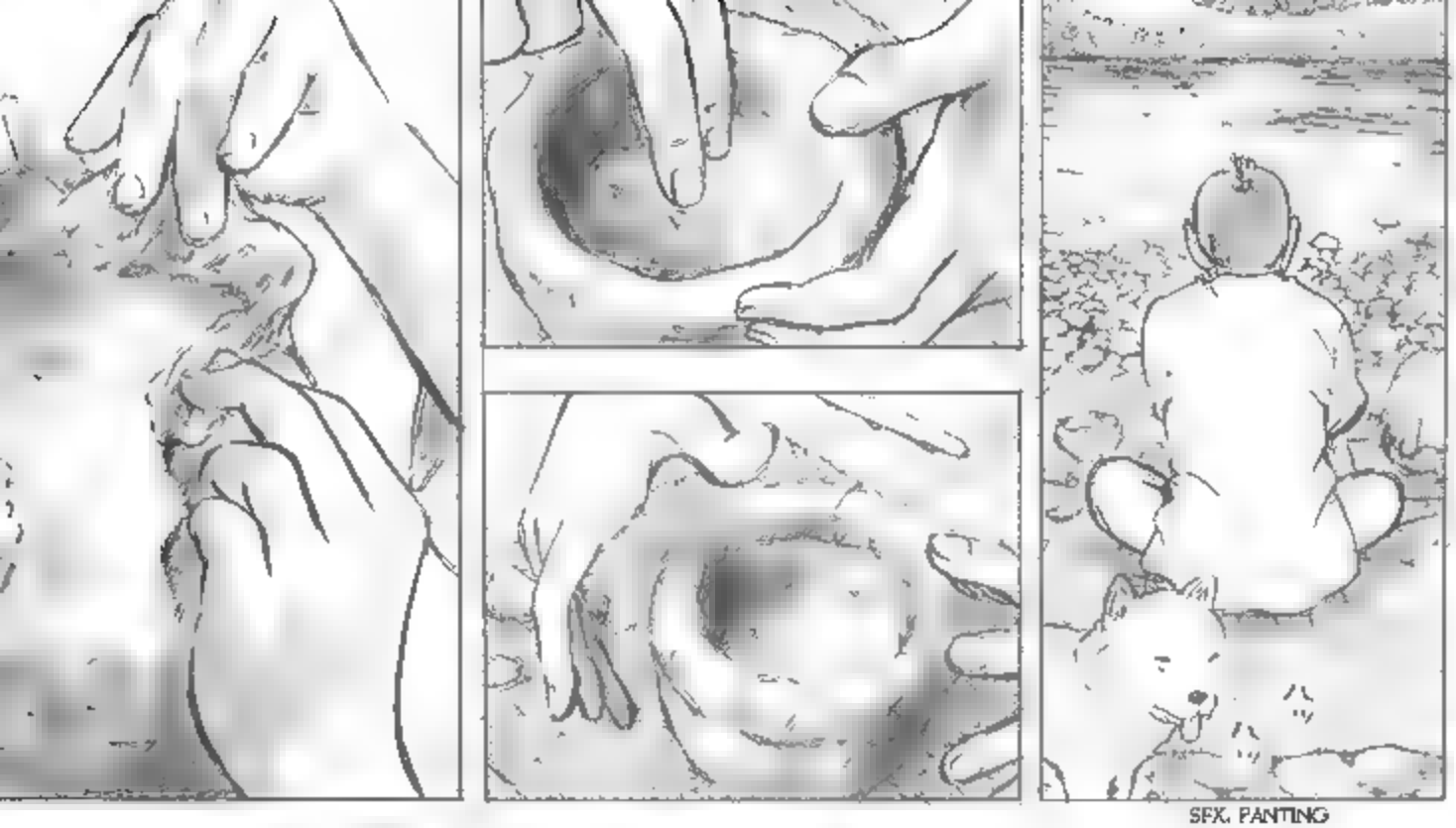
MEANWHILE, DURING MY MEAGER BREAKS, I SIP A FEW DROPS OF WATER.

IT ULTIMATELY ENDS WHEN THE SUN SETS AND THE NEW YEAR DAWNS.

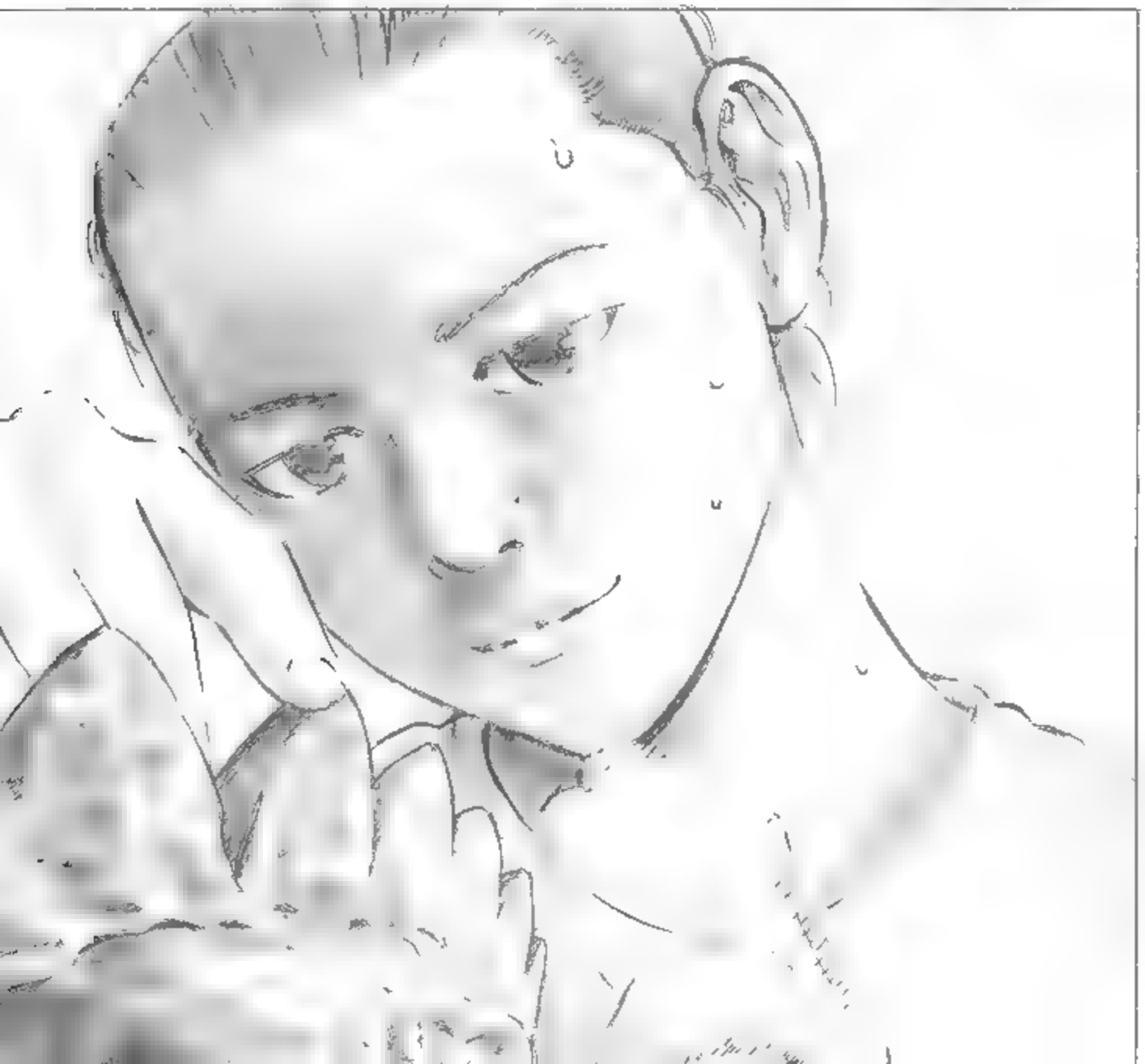
SO THAT'S WHY THE NEW YEAR'S RITUAL REQUIRES TWO VESSELS!!
WOW ...

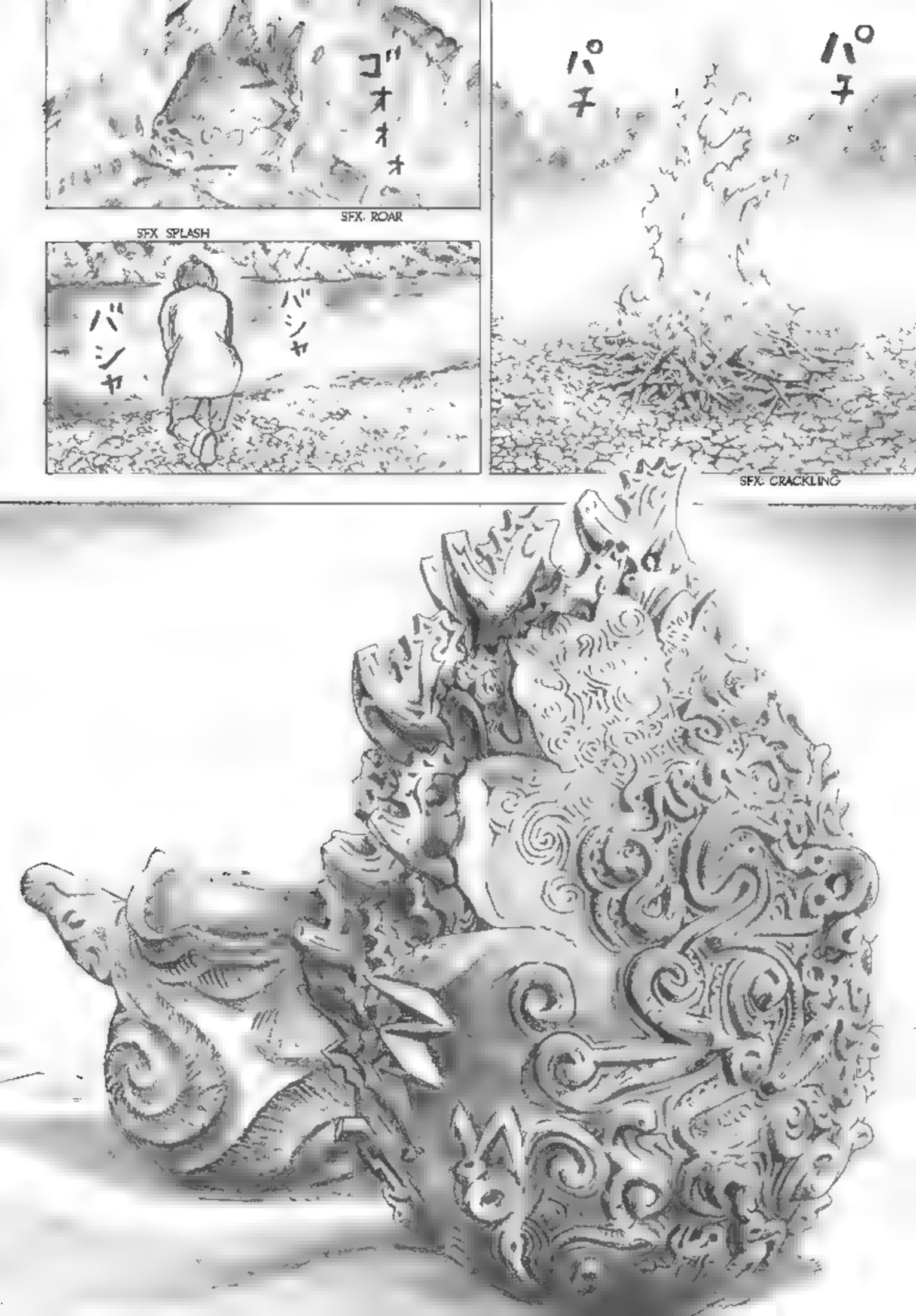


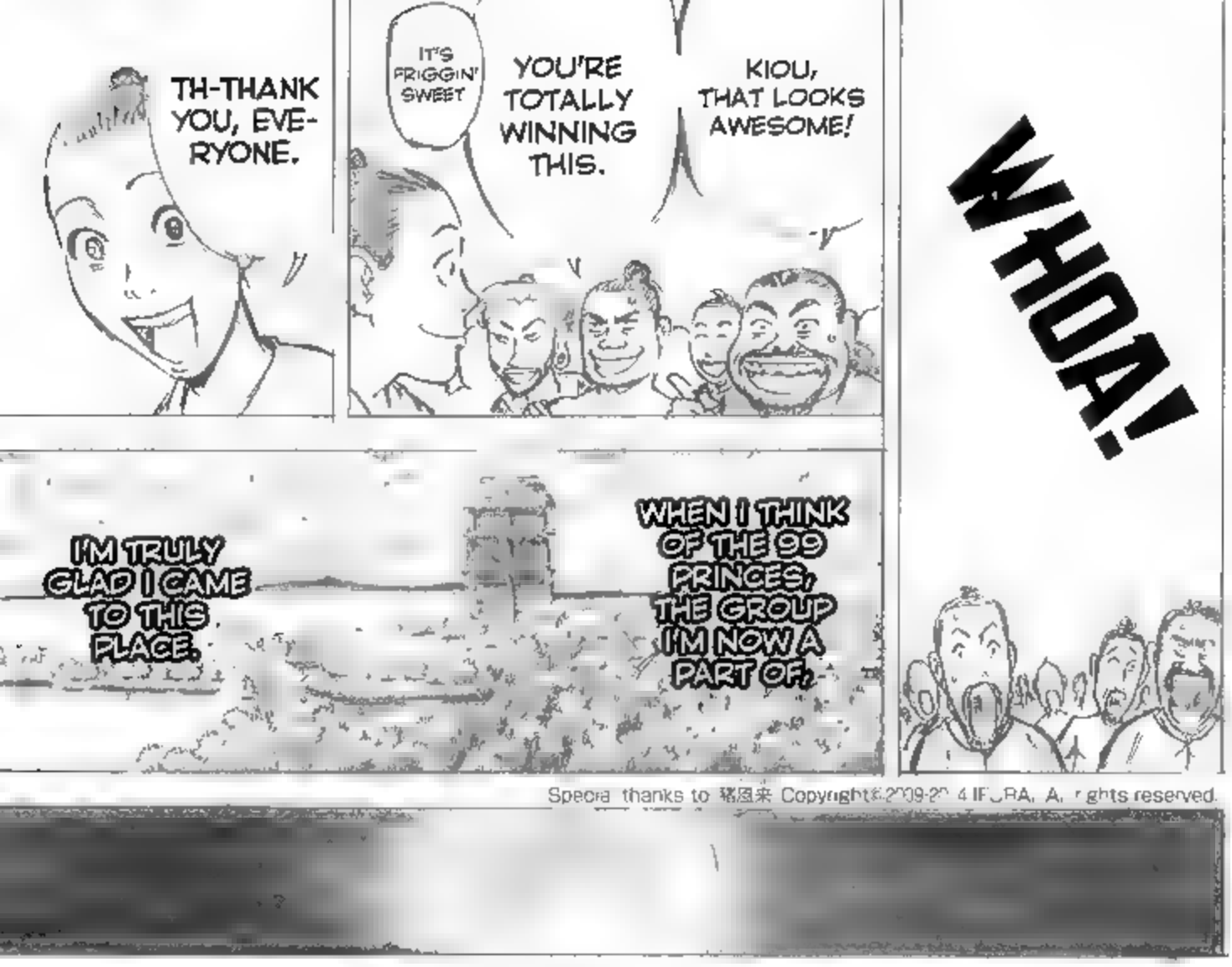
NO ONE KNOWS YURI-SAMA LIKE I DO!!
YOUR WORK-MANSHIP HAS SUCH ELEGANT BEAUTY!
WELL DONE, BUN'OU.
MY VESSELS WILL BE CHOSEN.
NO MATTER WHAT ANYONE ELSE MAKES,



SFX. PANTING




ゴオオオ
SFX: ROAR
SFX: SPLASH
バシャ
バシャ
パチ
パチ
SFX: CRACKLING


TH-THANK YOU, EVE-RYONE.
IT'S FRIGGIN' SWEET
YOU'RE TOTALLY WINNING THIS.
KIOU, THAT LOOKS AWESOME!
WHOA!
I'M TRULY GLAD I CAME TO THIS PLACE.
WHEN I THINK OF THE 99 PRINCES, THE GROUP I'M NOW A PART OF,

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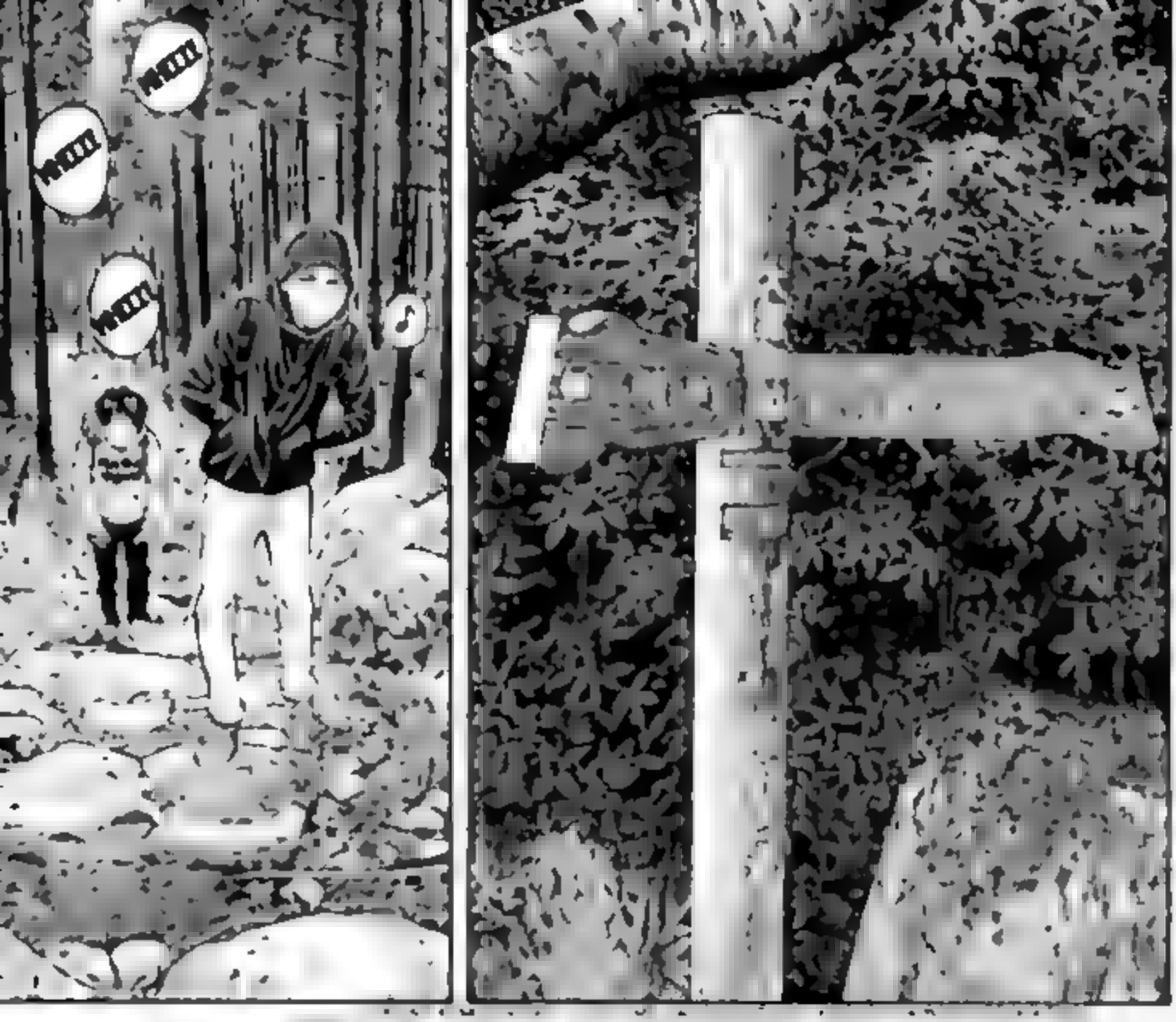
I CAN'T REMEMBER EVER BEING ANYWHERE BUT IN HERE.
HUH?
AREN'T YOU TIRED OF GAZING AT THE MOON?
LET'S GO SEE THE SUNRISE, TOGETHER.
WANT TO TAKE A TRIP OUT OF HERE, JUST ONCE?



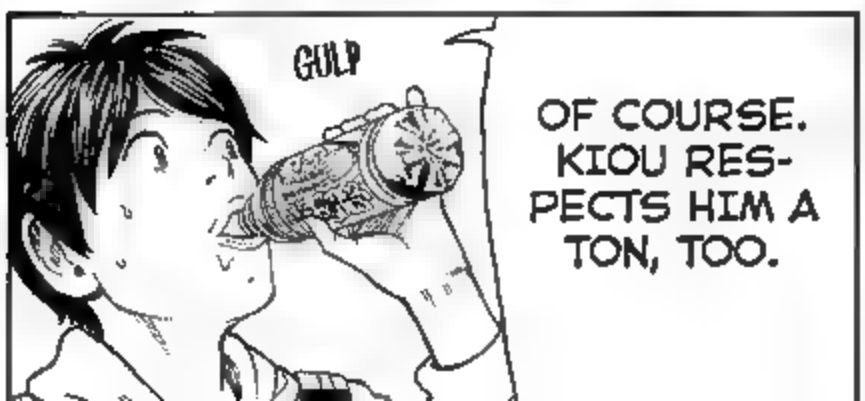
OTTERY (BELOW THAT): WORLD HERITAGE SITE: KUMANO SANKEI MICHI (VERY BOTTOM): KUMANO KODOU

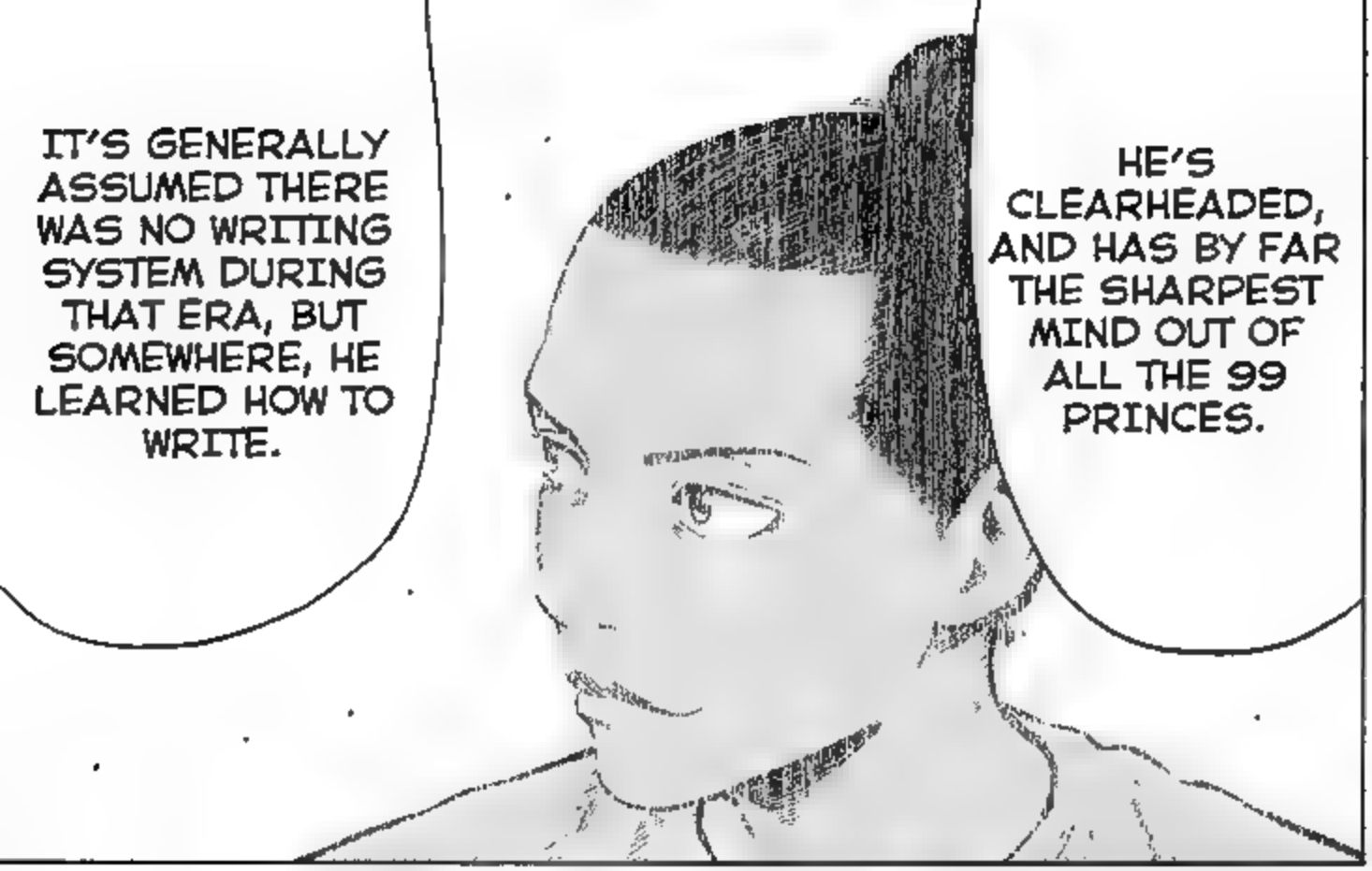
SPX, ALPS-X2, "ALTSLE"

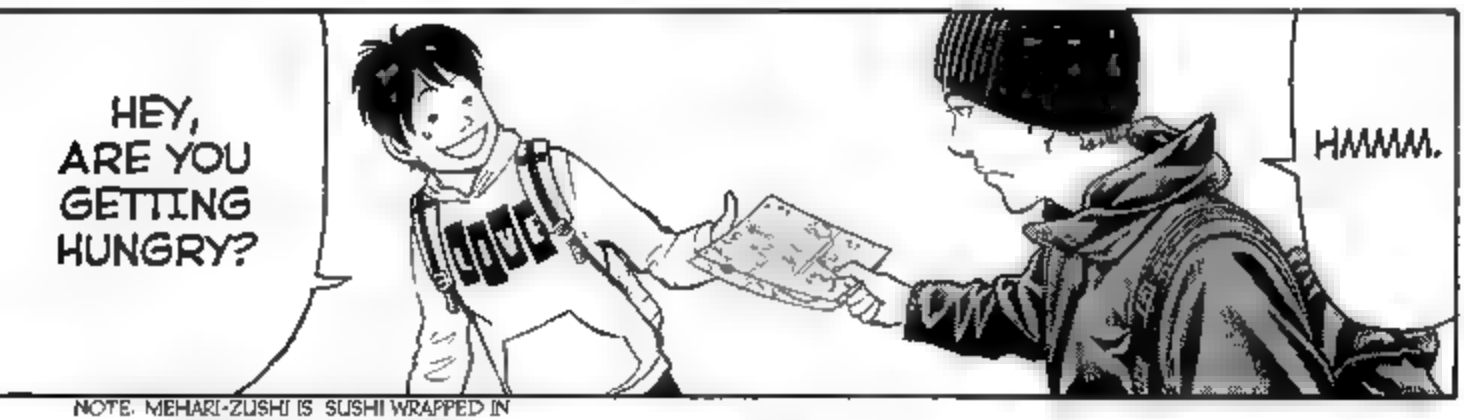
A STORY-BOARD I THREW OUT.
BUN'OU-SAMA, WHAT DO THESE THREE CHARACTERS MEAN?
THEY REPRESENT THE GODS OF THE THREE MOUNTAINS.
YOU'RE NORMALLY NOT ALLOWED TO COME IN HERE.
BUT THIS WATERFALL IS MY ABSOLUTE FAVORITE
SFX: ZAH
THIS IS THE MOST ELEGANT AND BEAUTIFUL
OF ALL THE FORTY-EIGHT WATERFALLS,
THIS WATERFALL IS A GODDESS.
YURI-SAMA SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH THE GREAT WATERFALL IS A MALE DEITY

BUN'OU DOESN'T REALLY SEEM LIKE A BAD GUY.

.....


GULP
OF COURSE. KIOU RESPECTS HIM A TON, TOO.


IT'S GENERALLY ASSUMED THERE WAS NO WRITING SYSTEM DURING THAT ERA, BUT SOMEWHERE, HE LEARNED HOW TO WRITE.
HE'S CLEARHEADED, AND HAS BY FAR THE SHARPEST MIND OUT OF ALL THE 99 PRINCES.



NOTE: MEHARI-ZUSHI IS SUSHI WRAPPED IN PICKLED TAKANA MUSTARD LEAVES

SO WHAT HAPPENS AFTER?
HUH?
THE STORY-BOARD ENDED PARTWAY THROUGH, RIGHT?

NAH.
MUNCH MUNCH

AND LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER?
DID THE TWO SETTLE DOWN TOGETHER
MUNCH MUNCH

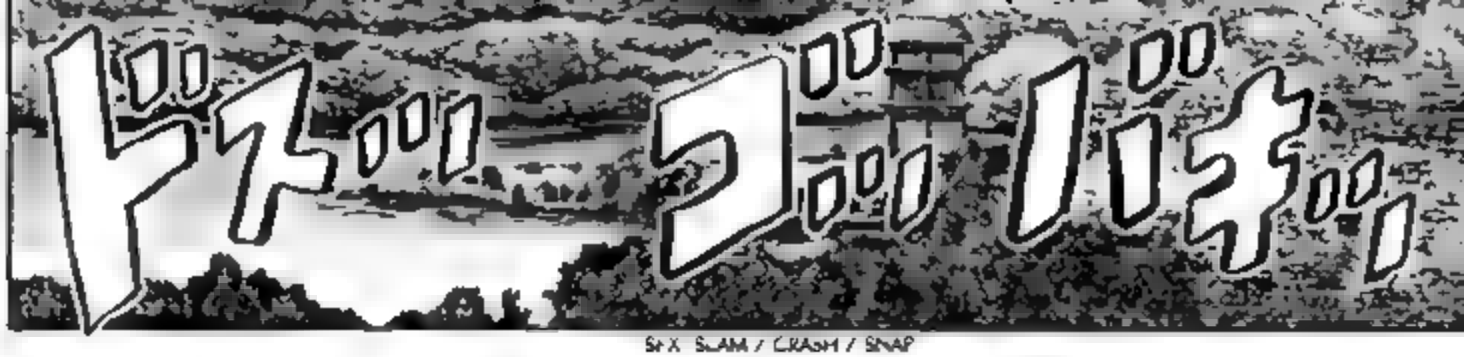
BUT AT A HEAVY COST.
EVERY-THING HAD GONE FINE SO FAR,

HIKING THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS WAS ROUGH ON HER.
YURI-SAMA HAD LIVED LIKE A BIRD IN A CAGE.

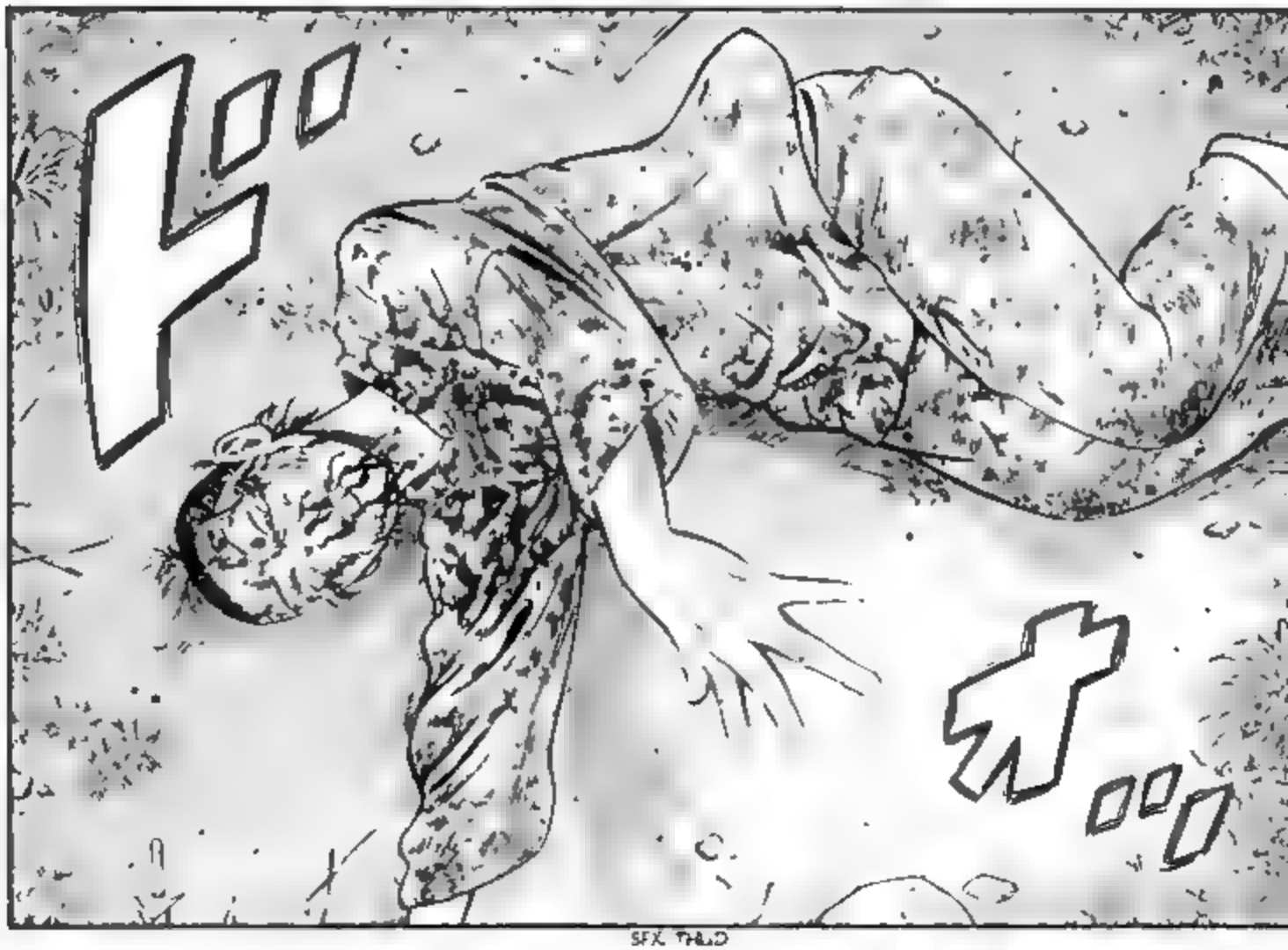
SFX: FLASH

THE PARTS OF HER SKIN THAT BATHED IN ITS RAYS SWELLED UP.
IT'S LIKE SHE WAS ALLERGIC TO THE SUN.

SFX: WAHH
AFTER ALL BUT KILLING THEM-SELVES TO GET BACK TO THE SHRINE, THEY FOUND IT IN AN UPROAR.
THEY RETURNED LONG AFTER THEY'D PLANNED.
HMMM.
SFX: MUNCH X2



SFX: SLAM / CRASH / SNAP



SFX: THUD

AND YURI-SAMA ENTREATED THAT HE BE SPARED.
GULP
SFX: WIND HOWLING
KIOU, BE GONE FROM THIS SHRINE.
AND NEVER AGAIN SHOW YOURSELF HERE.

BUN'OU-SAMA,
...STAB, PLEASE.

?
IT'S SAID THAT THE SOUL DWELLS IN YOUR SHADOW.
IN THE VILLAGE WHERE I WAS BORN,
I WILL LEAVE MY SOUL BEHIND.

DO IT.
SFX: STAB!

WHEN I WOKE UP, I FELT LIKE I'D BEEN STRUCK MUTE.
IT WAS A STRANGE DREAM.
MUNCH
SO HE WAS EXILED.

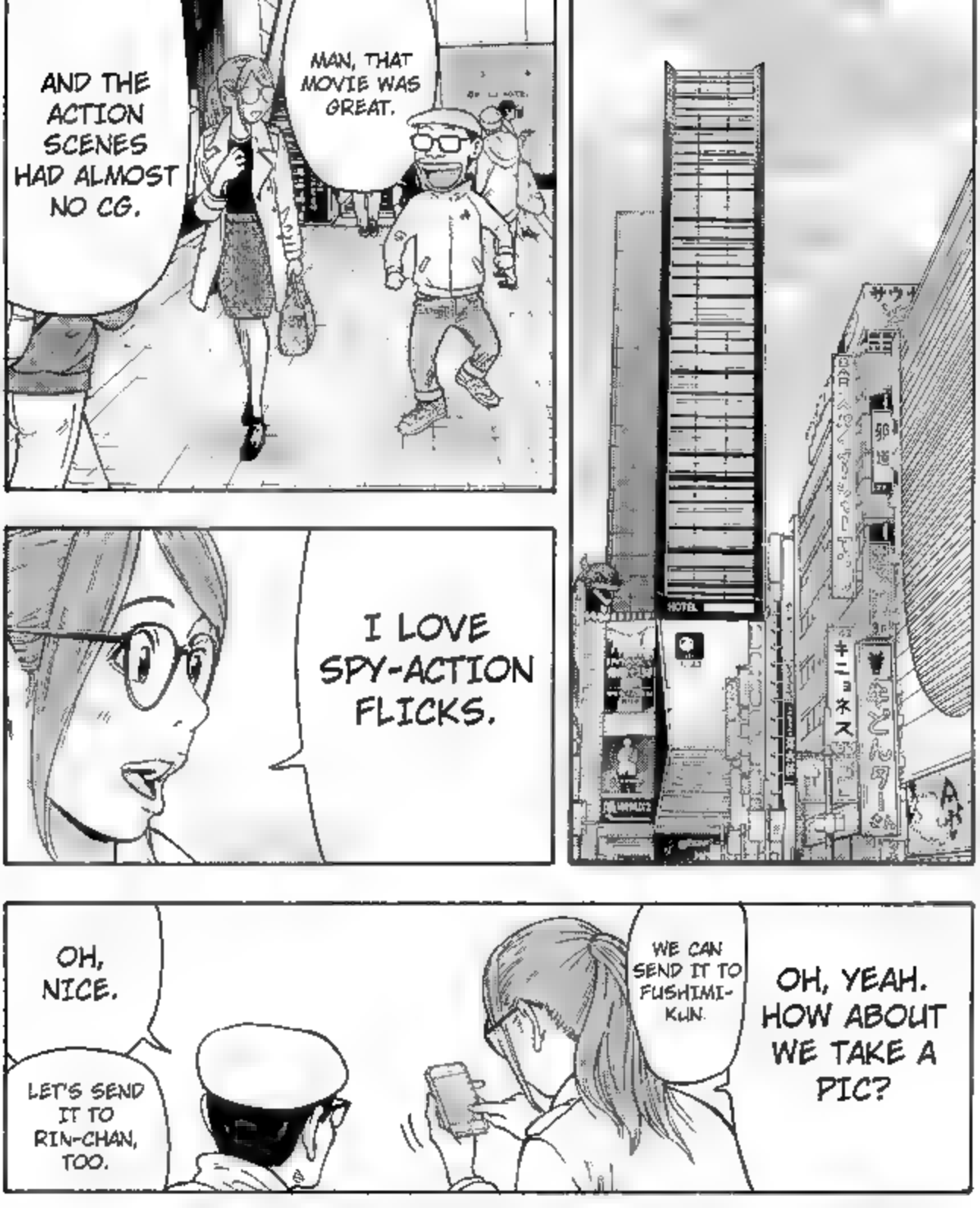
BUN'OU SMASHED THEM.
The mehari-zushi was delicious.
Thanks for the meal
IN THE END, I NEVER DID FIND OUT WHO WON THE POTTERY BATTLE.

HUH?

WHEN KIOU DEPARTED,
HE SMASHED THEM TO SMITHEREENS.

ガニ/ガニ/

AND FROM THAT DAY FORTH, SHE MADE A MESS OF ALL HER DUTIES.
AS FOR YURI-SAMA, SHE LOST CONTROL OF THE NEW YEAR'S RITUAL
GULP
.....
LOVE
HOW DO YOU...?
.....
SFX: STEP
WITH EVERY STEP, SO MANY THINGS FLASH BACK INTO MY HEAD.
I GET THE FEELING THIS ISN'T MY FIRST TIME WALKING THIS ROAD.
LET'S EACH WALK AT OUR OWN PACE.
I'LL HEAD ON AHEAD.
GYAH GYAH
LOVE


AND THE ACTION SCENES HAD ALMOST NO CG.
MAN, THAT MOVIE WAS GREAT.
I LOVE SPY-ACTION FLICKS.
HOTEL
OH, NICE.
LET'S SEND IT TO RIN-CHAN, TOO.
WE CAN SEND IT TO FUSHIMI-KUN.
OH, YEAH. HOW ABOUT WE TAKE A PIC?
SNAP

HEY, YOU BASTARDS!
QUIVER
GIMME THAT PHONE!
YOU TAKIN' A PICTURE OF US?
HAND IT THE FUCK OVER! WE'LL BE ERASIN' ALL YOUR DATA.
DON'T PLAY DUMB!
HUH...? WE DIDN'T TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU.
BUT I HAVE REFERENCE PHOTOS FOR RE:MEMBER ON THIS...
WHAT ...?

SFX: DASH!

SFX: DASH!

SFX: SLAM!

WE'RE GONNA FUCK YOU UP!!
FORK OVER YOUR WHOLE BAG!

S-SORRY, FURU-KAWA-SAN.
TURN

I KNOW I WILL..
I-I CAN'T- I'M GONNA PISS MYSELF.

TEXT: AWAWAWA!
あわわわ

REMEMBER: "NOT ONE STEP BACK." ♪ DON'T FORGET

HUH?
S-STOP THAT, ALL OF YOU!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
FUSHIMI...

WELCOME TO KUMANO!
NNEEZE
NNEEZE
I DID LIKE YOU SAID, AND CAME HERE.
YAS-SAN...
SFX: FREEZE
COMING TO THIS LAND HAS BROUGHT YOU CLARITY.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SEEING YOU WHILE I'M AWAKE...
ACT-UALLY, WHOA...
ペタッ

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, KIOU?

WHEN YOU LIVED IN THIS LAND,
YOU WERE A GUSHING FOUNTAIN OF CREATIVITY.

SIMPLY BEING BY HER SIDE
GRANTED YOU INS-PIRATION.

AFTER LOSING YOUR SOUL,
YOU NEVER AGAIN ATTEMPTED ANYTHING INVENTIVE.
SFX: STAB!

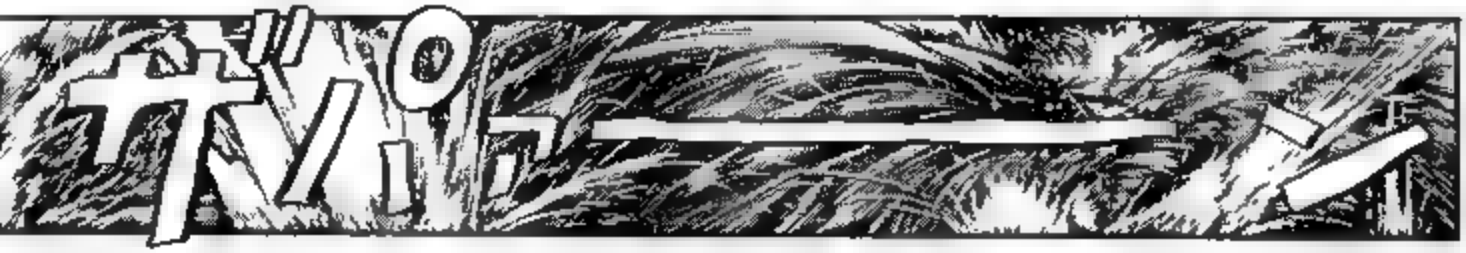
AFTER WANDERING VARIOUS LANDS FOR YEARS ON END...

NO...
I DIED IN OBSCURITY?

YOU FOUND A HOME IN A SMALL, SEASIDE VILLAGE.

THE VILLAGE SHAMAN TOOK A PECULIAR LIKING FOR YOU.

WELL, THIS "SHAMAN" WAS PRETTY MUCH A CHARLATAN.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DAMN...
LIKE THERE'S A HUGE STORM COMIN'.
THE OCEAN'S GOIN' CRAZY.

YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE!
NO, NO. THAT'LL NEVER WORK!
FORGET IT-- WE NEED TO EVACUATE.

A LOT OF PEOPLE MIGHT DIE.
MUST BE A GIANT STORM, THE KIND THAT ONLY COMES ONCE A DECADE.

SFX: HOWL

SFX DASH
!

YOU DID.
I WENT BACK TO THE SHRINE?

SO IN THOSE DAYS YOU SPENT AS ONE OF THE 99 PRINCES, YOU FOUND TRUE FAMILY.
YOU HAD LOST YOUR FATHER, YOUR MOTHER, AND YOUR SISTER.

SFX: ROAR

THE ELITES IMMEDIATELY EVACUATED HER TO HIGH GROUND; SHE WAS FINE.
WHAT ABOUT YURI-SAMA?

YET MOST OF THE PRINCES, INCLUDING THE CHILDREN...

IT'S KIOU !!
KIOU'S COME BACK!!

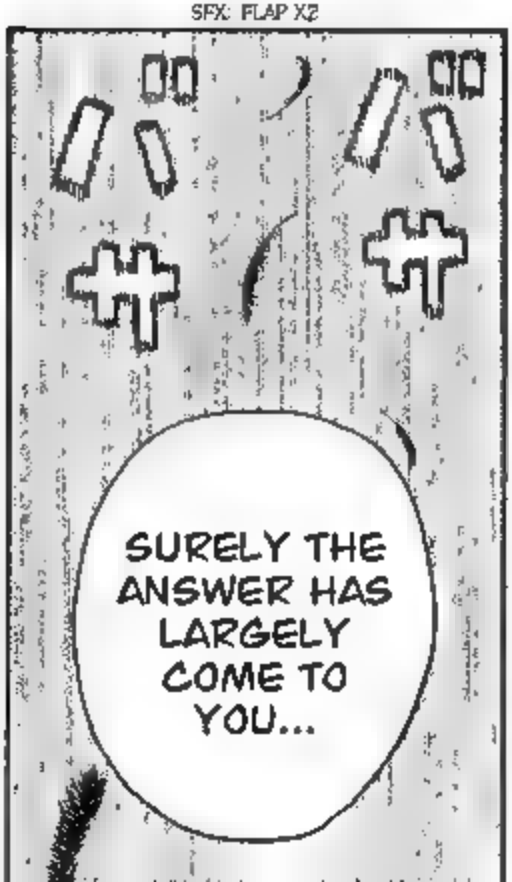
AND THAT STRENGTH LET YOU SAVE TWO, MAYBE THREE OF THE CHILD-REN.
TIME IN THE OCEAN HAD MADE YOU A STRONG SWIMMER,

YET.THE GOOD AND BAD ALIKE FALL
VICTIM TO A STORM'S WRATH.

KIOU...!
YOU'RE THE ONE YURI-SAMA NEEDS BY HER SIDE.
BUN'OU-SAMA...

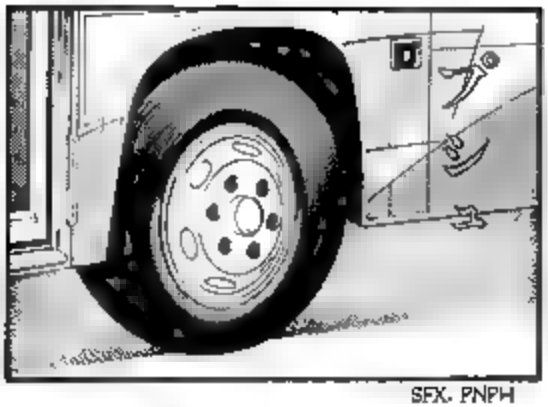
IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME I EVER APPEAR BEFORE YOU.
FUSHIMI...
FLAP

SFX: FLAP X2


SURELY THE ANSWER HAS LARGELY COME TO YOU...

I STILL DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE!
YASSAN,

HUH?!



SFX. PNPH

I MIGHT'VE COME UP WITH THE
WILL I BE ABLE TO GET STRAIGHT TO WORK AFTER GETTING
HUFF
HUFF
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
WHEEZE

HEY!
!

I THINK THIS VIEW MAKES WALKING ALL THE WAY UP HERE WORTH IT.

THAT YOU SAVED MY LIFE, FUSHIMI-KUN.
MAYBE IT WAS SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE

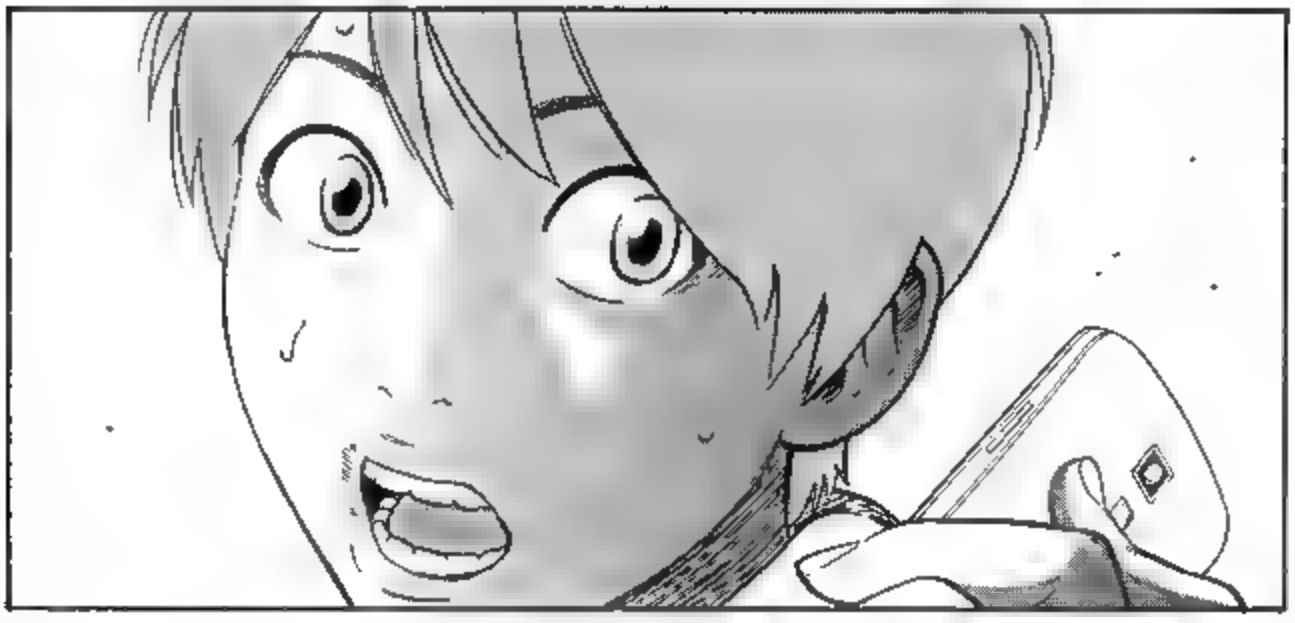
AH.
H-
HELLO
?
LOVE
HUH?
YOU'VE GOT
A SIGNAL?
I'M
STILL
OUT OF
RANGE.

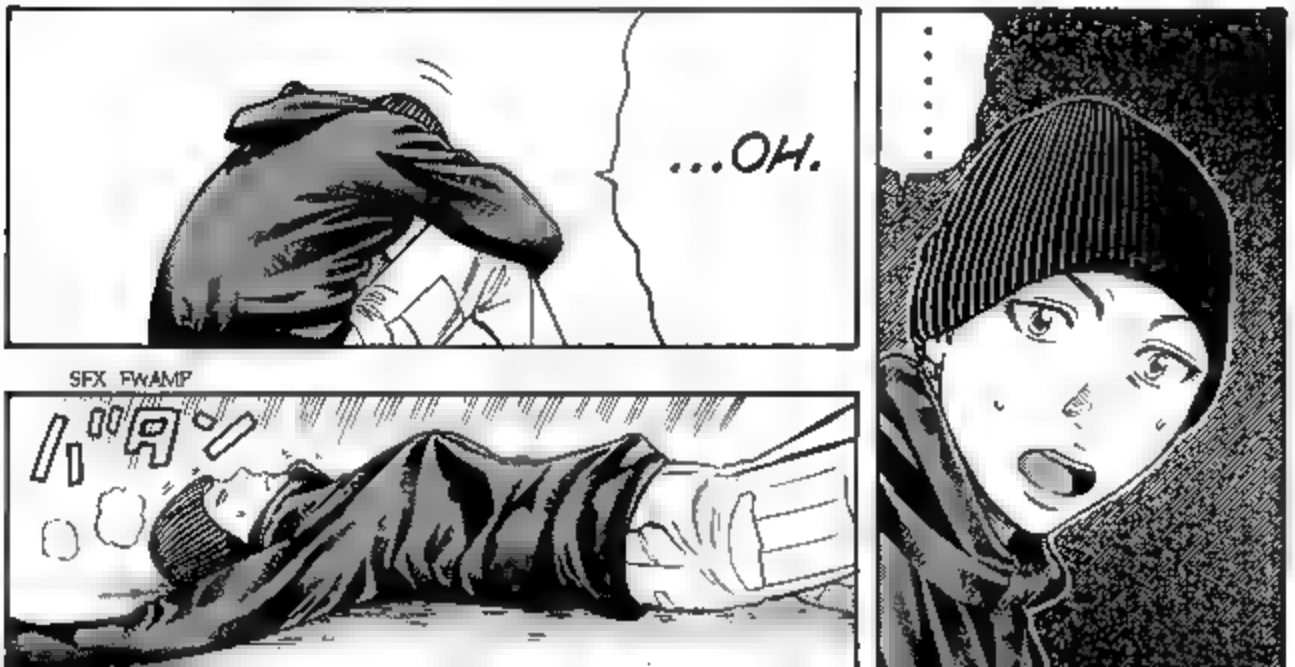
SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR TRIP,

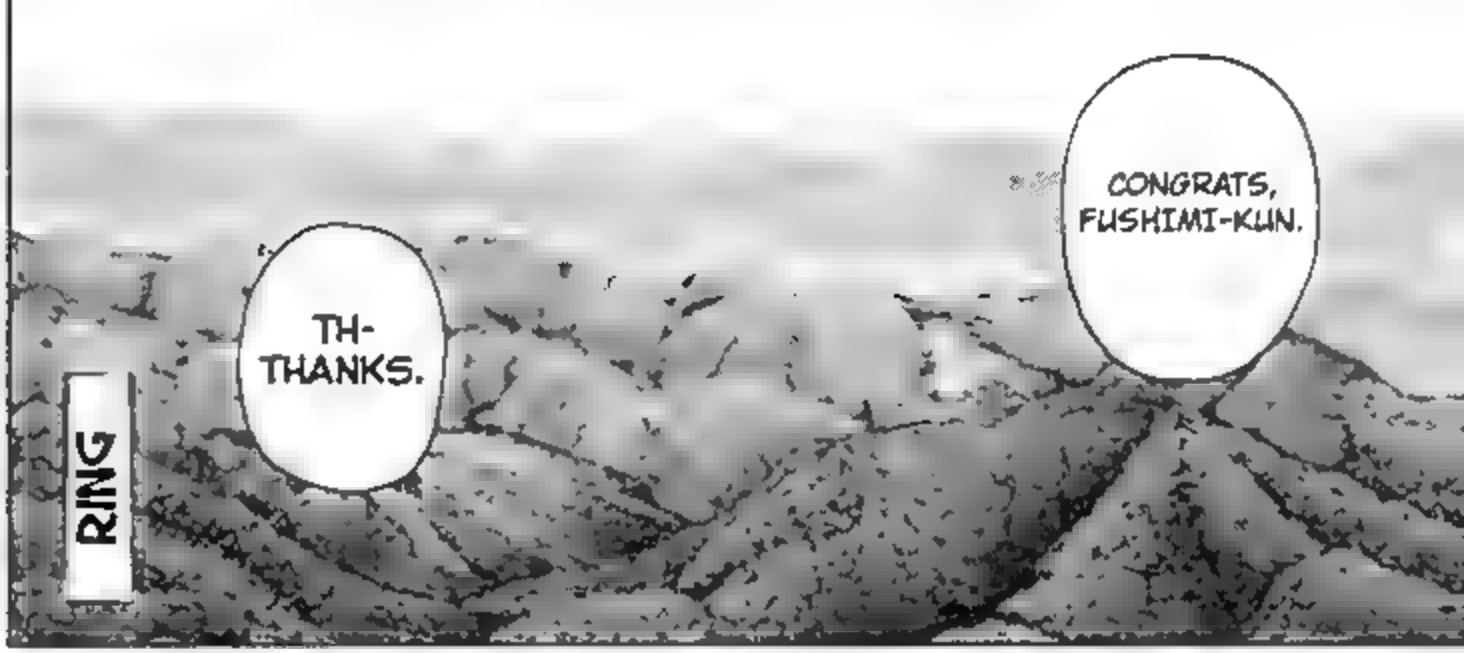
BUT IT'S ABOUT THE NEW YEAR'S COVER:
RE:MEMBER'S WON IT!!

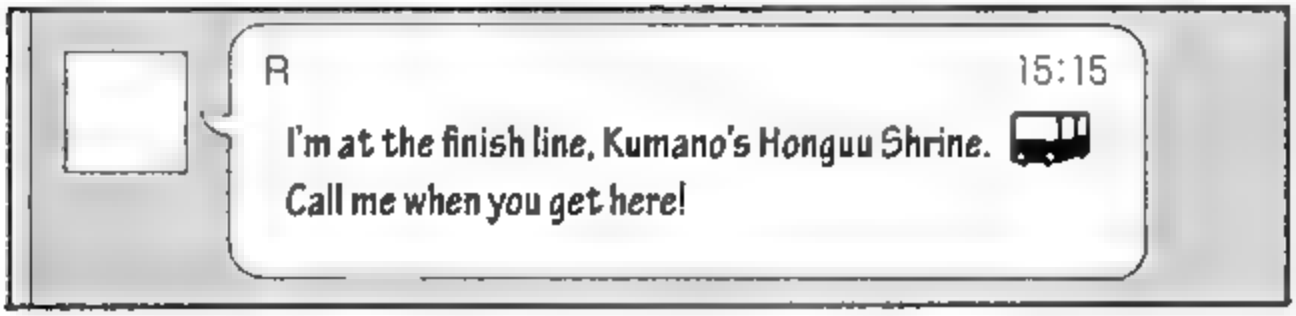
...DON'T TELL ME...
R-RIGHT NOW, TAKI-KUN'S BY MY SIDE.

OKAY. I THINK CHOUNO'S GOING TO CALL HIM LATER.
THOUGH HE'S SE-RIOUSLY PISSED.




...OH.
SFX: FWAMP


CONGRATS, FUSHIMI-KUN.
TH-THANKS.
RING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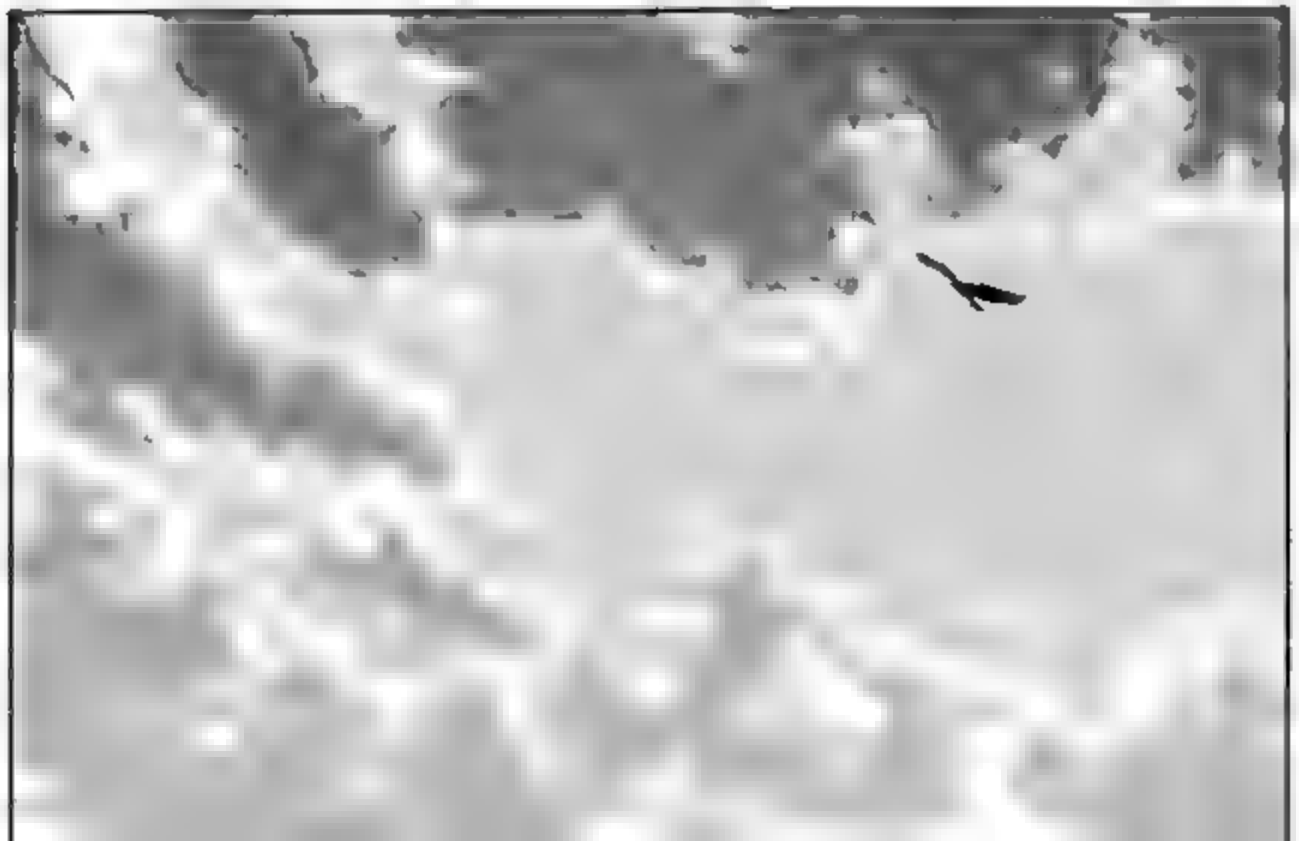
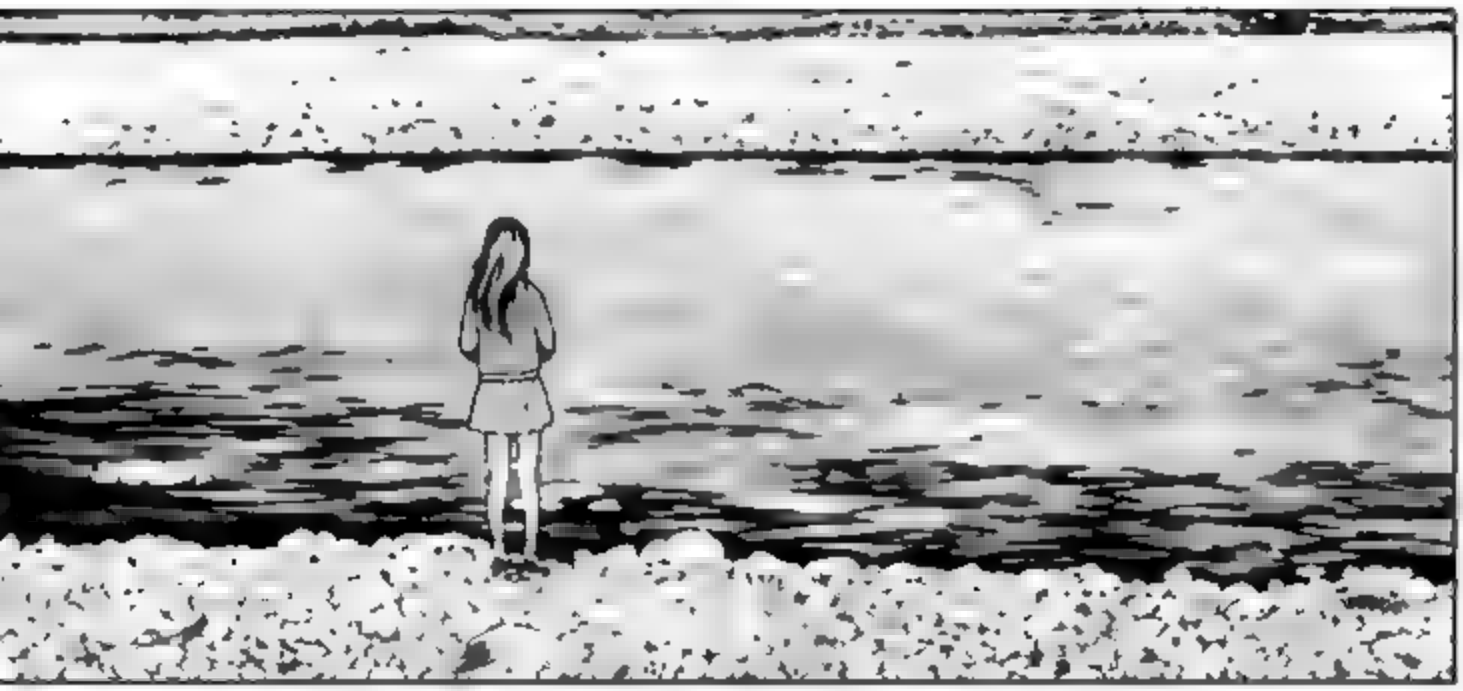
15:15
I'm at the finish line, Kumano's Honguu Shrine.
Call me when you get here!

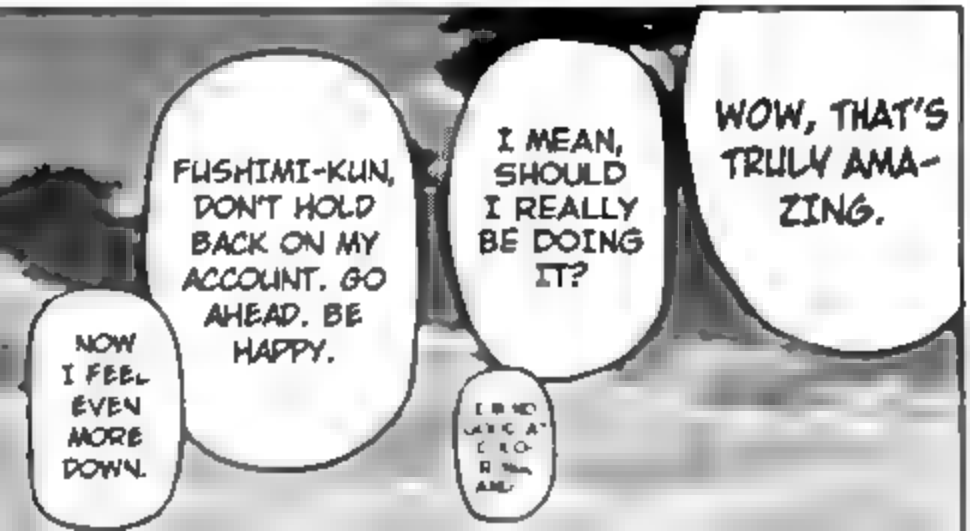
HUH?
ISHIDOU-SAN SAID SHE'S AT THE GOAL.

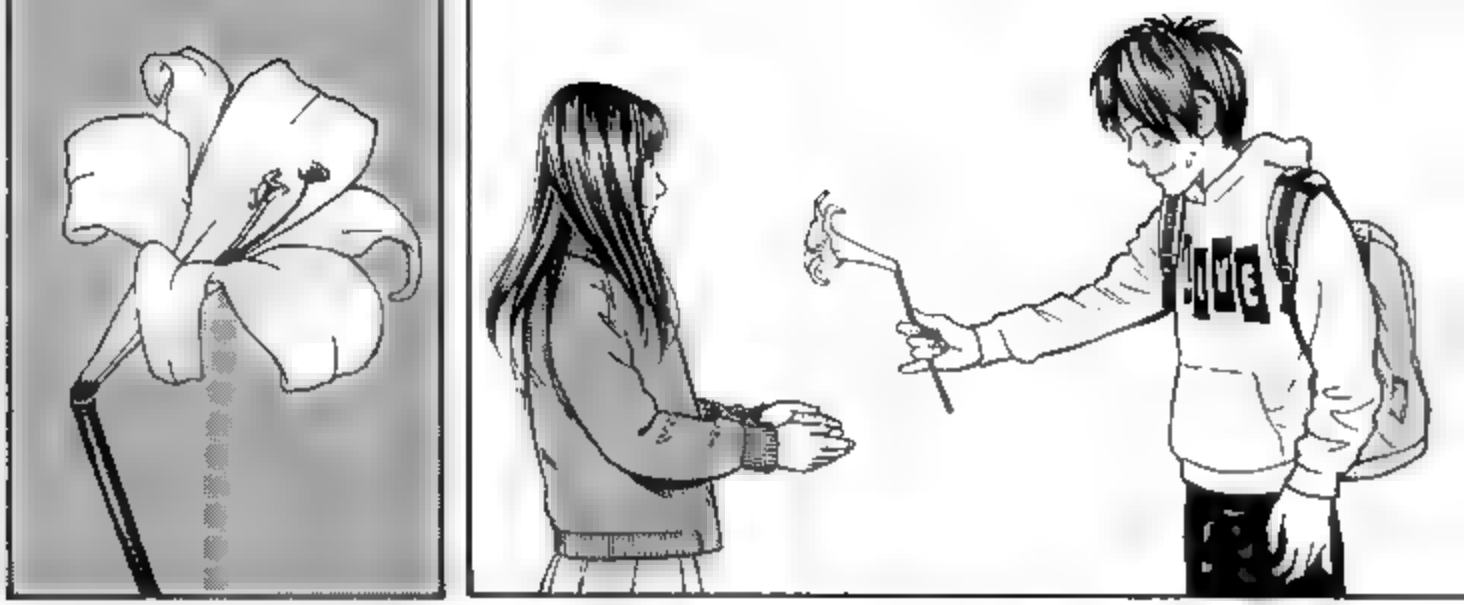


R 16:31

The old shrine's site is across the road.
Beyond there lies a river.
I'll be waiting by its shore.




NOW I FEEL EVEN MORE DOWN.
FUSHIMI-KUN, DON'T HOLD BACK ON MY ACCOUNT. GO AHEAD. BE HAPPY.
I MEAN, SHOULD I REALLY BE DOING IT?
WOW, THAT'S TRULY AMA-ZING.



LIES THE PLACE YOU DREW, FUSHIMI-KUN.
I THINK SOMEWHERE UPSTREAM OR DOWNSTREAM FROM HERE...

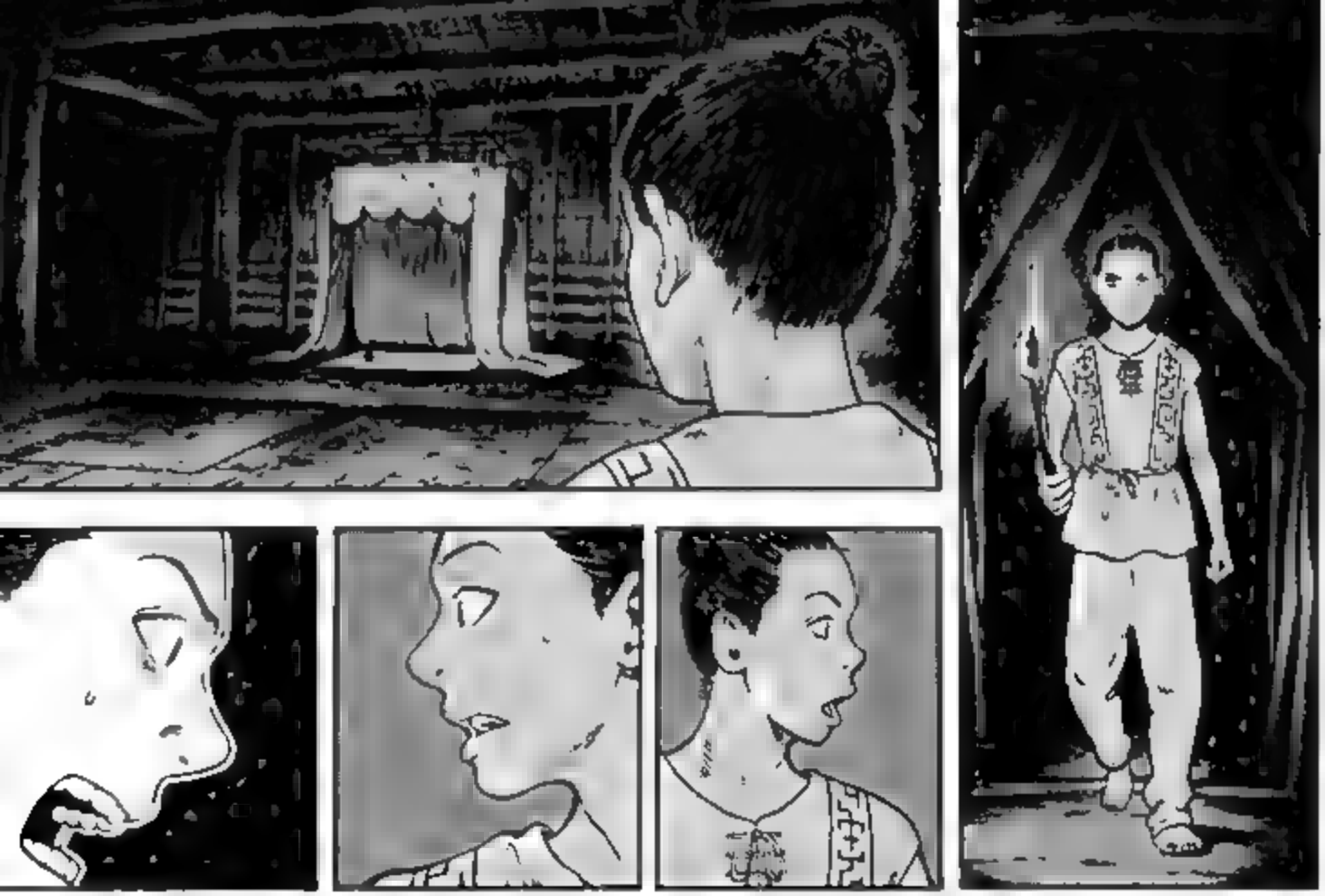
AFTER ALL, EVERYTHING TOOK PLACE OH-SO-LONG AGO.
...EVEN IF IT HAD BEEN THERE, I DOUBT THERE WOULD BE ANY VES-TIGE OF IT.

...

SFX SPLASH

BUT THE RIVER'S SO SHALLOW!
HUH?!
YOU'D NEVER DROWN IN THIS.

I'VE BEEN WONDE-RING...
WHAT HAPPENED AFTER?

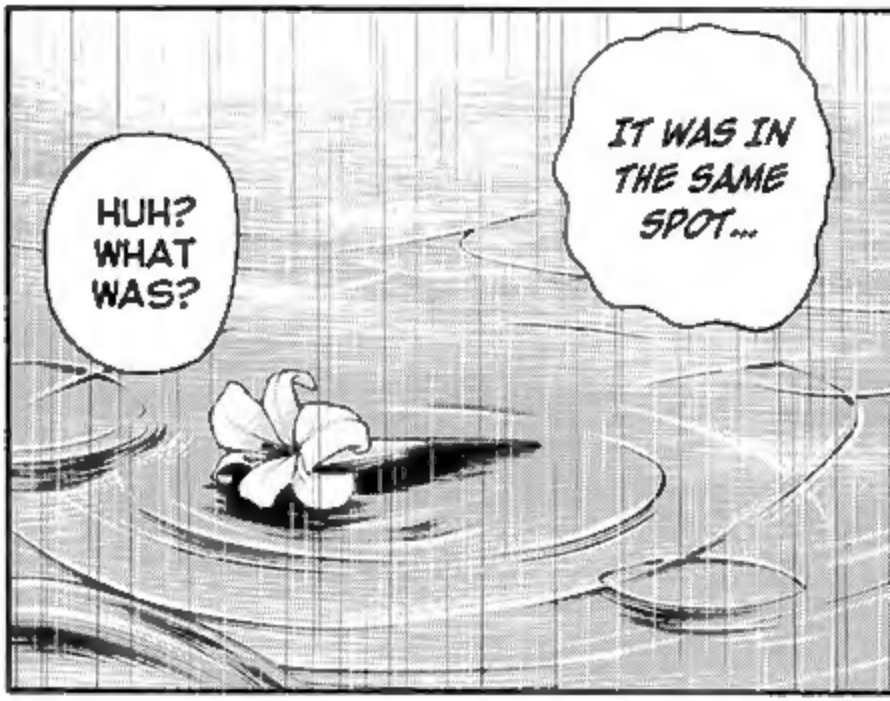


SEX RUNNING

I YEARN
TO SEE YOU
ONCE MORE.

. . . .

HUH...? WHAT'S WRONG?


HUH? WHAT WAS?
IT WAS IN THE SAME SPOT...

NEXT ISSUE: THE FINAL CHAPTER—
EVERY MYSTERY WILL BE ANSWERED!!!
RYCOLAA.COM

『RiN』

土器造形協力：猪風来、村上原野

DESIGNS OF LIFE AND THE SOUL

THE BEAUTY OF THE JOMON ERA, BROUGHT TO MODERN TIMES

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN JOMON POTTERY OR TERRACOTTA? WITH THEIR DYNAMIC EDGES AND SUBTLE LINES, THEY ARE CRAFTED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF IMAGINATIVE IMAGES: FLAMES, WATER, CREATURES, VEGETATION, AND MORE. IN THE JOMON CULTURE, WHICH FLOURISHED ON THE JAPANESE ARCHIPELAGO FOR OVER TEN THOUSAND YEARS BEGINNING 15,000 YEARS AGO, THE ANCESTORS OF THE JAPANESE MADE EARTHENWARE AFTER EARTHENWARE. NOT ONLY THE FIRST SOCIETY IN THE WORLD TO MAKE SUCH WORKS, THEY ALSO REACHED A DISTINCTIVE LEVEL OF BEAUTY UNSEEN ELSEWHERE ON EARTH. THOSE PATTERNS ARE THE DESIGNS OF LIFE AND THE SOUL.

WHILE EARTHENWARE ARE VESSELS USED TO COOK FOOD AND RECEIVE THE LIFE FORCE OF OTHER CREATURES, THEY ARE ALSO VESSELS OF THE SOUL, RECEPTACLES OF PRAYERS THAT THE MAJESTIC CREATURE THAT HAD DIED WOULD BE BORN ANEW. IN THE DAY, CRAFTING THESE ITEMS WAS WOMEN'S WORK. THE PRAYER-FILLED WORKS WERE BAKED THROUGH BURNING LUMBER, WHICH IN TURN HAD GROWN VIA THE STRENGTH MOTHER NATURE HAD PROVIDED FROM THE SUN, WIND, AND RAINS. SUCH METHODOLOGY DEMANDS TRANSCENDENTAL HEART AND TECHNIQUE. WITHIN JOMON PATTERNS, WE BEAUTIFULLY AND CLEARLY SEE THE CORE FEMININE DESIRE TO EMBRACE MOTHER EARTH AND HOPE TO REAP A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST.

AT PRESENT, PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD ARE BEING DRAWN TO THE BEAUTY AND SPIRITUAL CULTURE OF THE JOMON PEOPLE. IFURAI IS A ARTIST WHO ENDEAVORS TO RESURRECT THE JOMON POTTERY-MAKING TECHNIQUES IN THE MODERN ERA AND TO PRODUCE MODERN JOMON-STYLE ART. COUNTLESS ARTISTS HAVE BEEN SO INSPIRED, INFLUENCING WORK IN POTTERY, SCULPTURE, FILMS, PAINTINGS, WEAVINGS, ILLUSTRATIONS, MANGA AND MORE. IN FACT, THERE WAS EVEN AN ARTS OF JOMON SHOW HELD LAST YEAR IN TOKYO, NIIMI, AND AMERICA. IN THIS MODERN ERA, IT IS SURELY THE JOMON SPIRIT--TO DIG ROOTS INTO THE EARTH, TO EMBRACE ALL THE LIVES THAT DWELL ON IT AND RICHLY NURTURE THEM--IN WHICH LIES THE POWER TO VIEW THE FUTURE.

--IFUURAI

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